European Commission

EVALUATION THAT MATTERS.
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MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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ESF contribution to the objectives of Europe 2020 and consistency with EU priorities and policies

Wallis Goelen

European Commission
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
Unit E.5: Czechia, Poland, Slovakia

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Outline

1. *Legal framework*
2. *Conceptual frameworks*
3. *Assessment of ESF contribution to Europe 2020*
4. *Reflections on the future of ESF*

1. Generic references to CPR and ESF Regulations

- *ESIF incl. ESF shall support MS in pursuing the priorities and headline targets of the Europe 2020 strategy and allow MS to address their specific challenges with regard to achieving the Europe 2020 objectives*
- *Hence => full alignment of the ESF with the objectives of this strategy*
- *Country Specific Recommendations to be taken into account in design and implementation of the policies and actions => CSR concentration*
- *ESIF shall complement national, regional and local interventions to deliver the Strategy (additionality)*
- *Possibility for the COM to request a review and amendments of PA and OPs to support the implementation of relevant CSRs or to maximise the growth and competitiveness impact of ESIF (CPR art. 23)*

1. ESF relevant Europe 2020 priorities

Smart growth:

- **Education and skills** (encouraging people to learn, study and update their skills)
- **research/innovation** (creating new products/services that generate growth and jobs and help address social challenges)
- **digital society** (using information and communication technologies)

Inclusive growth:

- raising Europe's employment rate – **more and better jobs,** especially for women, young people and older workers
- helping people of all ages anticipate and manage change through **investment in skills & training**
- **modernising labour markets and welfare systems**
- ensuring that the **benefits of growth reach all** parts of the EU

1. ESF relevant Europe 2020 headline targets

Employment

- **75% of people aged 20–64 to be in work (71%; 69,1%)**

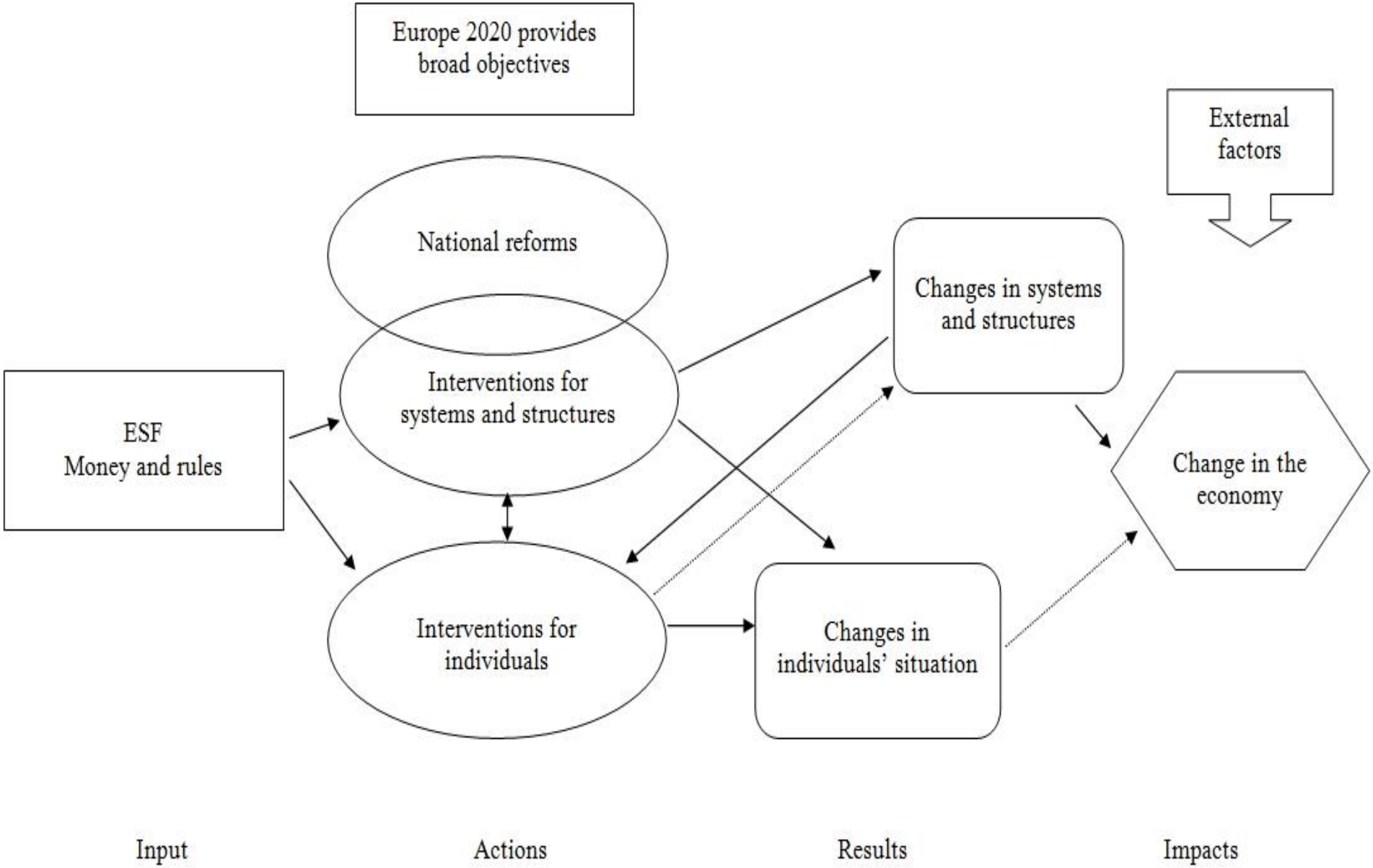
Education

- **rates of early school leavers below 10% (4,5%; 5,2%*)**
- **at least 40% of people aged 30–34 having completed higher education (45%; 44,3%*)**

Poverty and social exclusion

- **at least 20 million fewer people in – or at risk of – poverty/social exclusion (- 1,5mln; - 2,7mln)**

2. ESF intervention logic



2. Programming

- **alignment of objectives at all levels**
  - mechanism of coordination established in PA
- **matrix of intervention logic**
- **continuous programming**
  - Annual action plans
  - Socio-economic analysis
  - Monitoring and feedback loops
- **concentration on CSR**
  - methodology developed with DG EMPL

3. Contribution of ESF in Poland to Europe 2020 (1)

Actions for individuals:

- **Mostly volume and scope effects**
  - increasing the national allocation for and participation in ALMP
  - new target group – parents/carers of persons with disabilities
- **Due to volume could have influence on systems and structures but process effects rather unintended and rarely mainstreamed**
  - Slow modernisation of social welfare centres
  - Positive example: Youth Employment Initiative supporting Youth Guarantee implementation in Poland

3. Contribution of ESF in Poland to Europe2020 (2)

Actions for individuals:

- **Problem of outreach to the most difficult target groups**
  - III profile of unemployed, PWD, NEETs, schools in rural areas
- **Issues of quality and sustainability**
  - More emphasis on individualisation of support
  - Focus on achievement of targets for quantitative indicators
  - Lack of follow-up by the national systems

3. Contribution of ESF in Poland to Europe 2020 (3)

Actions for systems & structures:

- **Often intended to develop and test new solutions**
- **Lack of effective mainstreaming of the results**
  - School development programmes, social work standards
- **Positive example for innovation**
  - Health maps, triggered by ExAC 9.3, coordinated care
- **Usually fragmented**
- **Weak ownership**
- **Difficulties to cooperate**
- **Positive example in terms of volume**
  - preschool education

4. Measuring return on investments – ROI project

- Component One: **Development of a methodology to calculate return to public investments in research and innovation**

- Component Two: **Ex-post evaluation of ESIF financial support for innovation in Poland**

- Component Three: **Developing and piloting tools to assess and improve public investments in research and innovation**

4. Discussion on the future of ESF

- stronger link to CSR
- European value added
- separate strand for structural reforms
- enhancement of ex-ante conditionalities
- paying for results
- reinforcement of performance framework